A
ETTER
FROM
W. B. in the CITY,
To his Friend at
ARWICK.

BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA

Friend,

T of sight out of mind, does without doubt oft prove true, but you may believe is not so with me, notwithstanding my so long silence and your frequent Provocations. In Troth the various shapes our publik Affairs have put on, the general Consternation, that had in a manner seised all truly Loyal hearts, and impudent actings Gentlemen of *Forty One*, had so non-pluss'd, and stagger'd my apprehensions and I resolved my self into my old Mum, till Providence should afford me a more cer- comfortable Subject to accommodate my Friends; And now my hand is in acquit your self as well as you can. Your Letters have bin read by many an who say indeed, that you Write wittily and ingeniously, and that you are an Loyal Subject, and a true Church-man, but I hear of no great noble or ts you or your Town have done for either God or the King, as *Bristol* Places. Now is the time or never. We have Writers enough, who have sufficidone and foyled our Adversaries, in so much that divers of the Godly, or rather Un- have long since curs'd the Pampleteers and other Writers, and were willing to cross the that incomparable and unwearied Asserter of true Loyalty, the *Observator* especially, and would leave gauling them and laying open their old and new intended Villanies; the which has gratified them in laying down first, as you may find in his Paper of the 24 of his Reasons and Resolutions upon it, to which I referr you. But what will Writing or even Preaching do, if the Magistrate bear the Sword in vain? nay, what can the do, if all true and loyal Subjects, I mean the establish'd Church of *England* Protestants, earnest, and actively forward to assist him in the execution of the Laws against all se- Conventicles and unlawful Assemblies whatsoever. 'Tis plain, that Indulgence has en- and made them impudent, and nothing but severity will calm and make them subject. I may now say, that the Boot is on the right Leg, and will (if we are not wanting to our King and our selves) there continue, tho the Devils labour hard to pluck it off again. which they have taken divers Methods and Measures, as by lies and lying Wonders, Enemies whereby they ever carried on and supported their Infernal Cause, by a new for taking and interpretation of all Legal Oaths, squared to these Saints Consciences, *Po-* fitted for our Republican Hogs-heads, the pretty Intrigue with our Rennegado, who came

came with the *Morocco* Embaſſador; *Salamanca* pick-Locks for the black Box, being th
invention of a Maſquerading Jeſuit ſpawned of Anabaptiſt Parents; Evidences kept in
help at a dead liſt, *Ignoramus* Juries, who make all Laws truckle to their omnipotent Co
ces, *Midſummer*-Moon Frolicks in chuſing of Sheriffs; and laſtly, by frighting the chief Ma
and other Officers from doing their Duties, with Actions and Suits of Law, and broaching
nies againſt them. I might add many more, but theſe may ſuffice at preſent, only let m
leave to remind you of my prophetick Spirit in my Letter to you upon the firſt diſcovery
Popiſh Plot, when I told you, that I fear'd another would ariſe out of the Aſhes of that
which is now as plainly viſible as the Noſe in an honeſt mans Face. The good old
men may call it a Sham plot, and ſwear in an *Ignoramus* Way, That there is no Pres
or Republican one; So, they may drink Healths to the pious Memory of *Steven* Cu
condemned Traitor, and ſay they are the Kings beſt and moſt loyal Subjects; Nay, they
endeavour for a Bill of Excluſion as ſoon as they have taken the Oaths of Allegiance and Su
cy, and think they are not perjured, They may do evil, that good come thereby, and ſay, S
berty have all their Saints; They may cry out of Arbitrary Government, and ſet up an
ring Committee; They, when it ſerves their turn, may maintain, that the Servant is ab
Maſter, that the Sheriffs are above the Lord Mayor, and that the Mobile or Rabble ar
all. That *Vox Populi* (by which muſt be underſtood our Republican Saints, as heretofore
Army) is *Vox Dei*, And that the Kings of *England* are elective, and but Servants to the
which was the common Doctrine before the taking off the Head of that bleſſed Martyr
the firſt. But no more of this Subject, till I ſee what returns you make and iſſue of
depending upon the *Quo Warranto*, or our new Sheriffs give bond and ſworn. Howeve
I conclude, it may not be amiſs to acquaint you that the old Fox and P———S are pa
that ſome of the Patriots of the Whiggs and Troublers of *Iſrael* are gon beyond Sea,
aſide, as *Bethel*, *Starkey*, *Wilmore*, *Aaron Smith*, *and Langly Curtiſe*. *William Pen* with ſom
Gang are gon to *Penſilvania*, and many others to *Carolina*, as Harbingers to their mighty
A good riddance ſay I, and the more the merrier, that we may have the better Cheap
puts me in mind to tell you, that merry *Tom* the Teaſer is dead before he could take
with his Comrogues. In a Word I am

SIR,

September 1.

Yours

W.

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